GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:539
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2016
Satellite Launching Technology
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Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Space and the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is leveraging the advancement of our technological knowledge in launching economically viable payloads into space;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the Government proposes to open up ISRO"s activities to enable it to launch commercial satellites into space in order to reap some economic benefits; and
(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PG & PENSIONS AND IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

(a)&(b) In 1992, Department of Space established Antrix Corporation Limited (Antrix), as its commercial arm, for providing indigenously developed space technology and services on a commercial basis. The Department of Space provides launch services through Antrix for launching satellites of foreign customers onboard Indian Launch Vehicles, either as a dedicated commercial missions or as co-passengers with Indian Satellite missions.

(c)&(d) Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has been providing launch services through Antrix, on a commercial basis for launching satellites of foreign customers onboard its Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV). Till date, ISRO has launched 57 satellites from 20 countries, including six dedicated commercial launches.

The Number of satellites launched by PSLV for foreign countries are: Algeria (1), Argentina (1), Austria (2), Belgium(1), Canada (8), Denmark (2), France (2), Germany (9), Indonesia (2), Israel (1), Italy (1), Japan (3), Luxembourg (1), Republic of Korea (1), Switzerland (2), Singapore (8), Netherlands (1), Turkey (1) & United Kingdom (6), USA (4).

Antrix has signed agreements with customers from 7 (seven) countries for launching 25 satellites viz., Algeria (3), Canada (3), Germany (4), Indonesia (1), Japan (1), Malaysia (1) and USA (12), on-board PSLV, during 2016-17 time period.

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